

Professional Goal Statement 1: To use a variety of modes of communication to educate parents about the emergent stage of reading development.

<i>Outcomes</i>	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Evaluation method</i>	<i>WI Teacher Standards</i>
I will develop a web site with useful, parent-friendly information on emergent reading and how parents can help their emergent readers improve their reading skills	Take class on web site development. Gather information on characteristics of emergent readers.	Self-evaluation and peer evaluation of web site. Parent surveys on content and “friendliness” of the web site.	1, 2, and 10
I will develop a multimedia presentation to educate parents about the importance of fluency in reading comprehension.	Take class on teaching with multimedia applications, especially podcasting. Gather information on fluency and fluency instruction.	Self-evaluation and peer evaluation of multimedia presentation. Parent surveys on content and usefulness of presentation.	1, 2, and 10

What changes in your plan were required in order to meet your goal?

I did not need to make any substantial changes in my plan to meet my goal. By taking a class on website development, I was able to successfully create a web site for parents to help them understand how children learn to read in kindergarten. While I did not complete the multimedia presentation about fluency, I was able to learn how to create such a project and collect some of the pieces of content for the project. It remains a work in progress.

What additional activities did you complete in order to meet your goal?

In addition to the class on web site development, I did a lot of my own reading on web design, especially in the areas of HTML and CSS code and web design standards.

What are any remaining challenges you will need to resolve?

While my website is adequate, I would like to go back and make some modifications to it. The appearance of some of the colors and graphics are quite different on different computer displays and I want to make some adjustments to that. Over the course of the 2009-2010 school year, I also collected additional content for the web site that I would like to add to the site. I also want to complete the multimedia presentation on fluency and incorporate that into the web site.

How has your plan allowed you to support student learning?

When developing a web site, you really need to take the information you want to relay and pull out only the most important parts, then present that information in a succinct, easy-to-read manner. Going through everything I know about how children learn to read and pulling out only the most important information helped reinforce, in my mind, the most crucial parts of learning to read. Having that information helped me stay attuned to these developments in my students and work to foster those skills and abilities in my instruction.

Providing information to parents about what we are doing in the classroom to learn to read is also an important part of supporting student learning. By providing parents with information on the things we focus on during our classroom instruction, they are then able to reinforce those concepts at home.

What type of collaboration did you engage in to meet the new goals?

I did not need to do any collaboration to develop the web site or the multimedia presentation.

Professional Goal Statement 2: To incorporate technology into my writing curriculum to improve students' writing skills.

<i>Outcomes</i>	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Evaluation method</i>	<i>WI Teacher Standard</i>
I will develop a unit of study on using digital cameras to record classroom events and write "small moments" stories about those pictures.	Take class on multimedia applications. Obtain several digital cameras for classroom use.	Self-evaluation of lesson plans. Evaluation of "small moments" stories using a writing rubric.	4
I will develop lessons that allow students to create a finished product from one or more of their stories.	Learn how to use Windows Movie Maker. Learn how to use other cartooning and/or storyboarding programs.	Self-evaluation of lesson plans. Evaluation of finished student work using a writing rubric.	4

What changes in your plan were required in order to meet your goal?

I expanded my first outcome to include the creation of a blog with my students. I also changed the focus a bit, moving from classroom events to observations of the school prairie. I did not have to make any changes for my second outcome.

What additional activities did you complete in order to meet your goal?

I learned how to use the TuxPaint drawing program and introduced that to my students.

What are any remaining challenges you will need to resolve?

I still need to obtain several, kid-friendly digital cameras for my classroom to use on our prairie observations. The biggest challenge remains the time factor. Because my students are only 5 or 6 years old, I sometimes need to provide a higher level of support when using some of the technology (especially Audacity), which takes time away from other instruction I could be doing. My goal is to help students be more independent when using the technology, explore alternate methods of voice recording with iPods, and fine-tune some of my scheduling in the classroom.

How has your plan allowed you to support student learning?

In my experiences with using technology to create a more "finished" product for their writing, I have found that my students show more enthusiasm and engagement. Learning to write in kindergarten can be a long, arduous process at times. Upping the engagement and motivation factors help my students learn to persevere through the rough spots.

What type of collaboration did you engage in to meet the new goals?

The inspiration for the development of a unit of study using a blog to report on our school prairie came from our school guidance counselor. We have collaborated throughout the year to help my students develop their observation skills and notice changes over time. I am hoping to continue this collaboration in the upcoming school year as we add a reporting and technology component to our prairie observations.